

Karnataka	-	4. Dr. Balaji K. N.
		5. Dr. Ashok M. Raichur
Uttar Pradesh	+	6. Dr. Balaji Prakash
Maharashtra	+	7. Dr. Mohan R. Wani
Delhi	-	8. Dr. Debasisa Mohanty
		9. Dr. Rajesh Sudhir Gokhale

Awardees for the year 2008

Andhra Pradesh	+	1. Dr. Sangita Mukhopadhyay
		2. Dr. Rajan Sankaranarayanan
Karnataka	-	3. Dr. Nagasuma Chandra
		4. Dr. Utpal Shashikant Tatu
		5. Dr. Anuranjan Anand
Uttar Pradesh	-	6. Dr. S. Ganesh
		7. Dr. R. Sankaramakrishnan
West Bengal	+	8. Dr. Samit Kumar Nandi
Haryana	+	9. Dr. Nihar Ranjan Jana
Delhi	-	10. Dr. Pushkar Sharma

Representation of women in R&D establishments

761. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many women are employed in various Research and Development (R&D) establishments of the Department of Science and Technology in the country;

(b) whether any scholarships have been designed/proposed for women scientists to encourage them in R&D work and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of scholarships available, application received and awarded during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) A total of 1113 women are employed in various R&D establishments of the Department of Science and Technology.

(b) Yes Sir. The 'Women Scientist Scheme - WOS-A for Research in Basic and Applied Sciences of the Department of Science and Technology, became operational in 2003. This scheme aims at providing opportunities to unemployed women scientists and technologists for: pursuing research in frontier areas of Science and Engineering. A special provision has been made under this scheme to encourage those women scientists who have had break in their careers. It provides a launch pad for them to return to mainstream of science and work as bench-level scientists in the field of Science and Technology. The selection of women scientists for award of scholarship is made based on the technical evaluation of the research proposal submitted. There are two categories of women applicants under WOS-A Scheme i.e. i) M.Sc or equivalent and ii) Ph.D or equivalent. The fellowship amount for M.Sc. and Ph.D category applicants are Rs 20,000/- pm and Rs. 35,000/- pm respectively. Besides the fellowship, the total project cost also includes grant for consumables, minor equipments, travel and contingency.

(c) The number of scholarships offered is not predetermined. During the past three years the Department has received 2272 proposals against which 852 projects have been supported in different disciplines i.e. Life Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Physical and Mathematical Sciences, Engineering Sciences, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences & S&T based societal interventions.

Development of Biotechnology

762. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has done any assessment with regard to the development of biotechnology in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is an existing Government organization that carries out research and development in the field of biotechnology;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Yes Sir. The Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and